

Blanco Ranger  
District  
220 E Market Street  
Meeker, CO 81641



## **MIRROR LAKE TRAIL # 1821**

**Difficulty:** More Difficult

**Trail Use:** Heavy

**Length:** 3.5 miles

**Elevation:** Starts at 8,603 feet and ends at 10,016 feet (highest point 10,049 feet)

**Elevation Gain:** + 1,732 feet – 319 feet = - 1,413 feet

**Open To:** HIKING, HORSEBACK RIDING

### **Access:**

- The Mirror Lake Trail is located 41 miles east of Meeker.
- From Meeker, take State Highway 13 east for 1 mile.
- Where Highway 13 turns north, turn east on Rio Blanco County Road 8 for 39 miles.
- Turn south on the Trappers Lake Road (FDR 205) for 1/2 mile to the Mirror Lake Trailhead access road. Follow the road 1/4 mile to the trailhead.

### **Trail Highlights:**

Leaving the parking area you cross a 3/4 mile strip of private land along the White River. The grass and sagebrush give way to aspen and lodgepole pine as you leave the river bottom. Shortly after you start into the timber you enter the National Forest and the Flat Tops Wilderness. The trees change from aspen and lodgepole to Engelmann spruce and alpine fir as you gain elevation. The trail follows Mirror Creek for 2 1/2 miles until you reach Shamrock Lake. One quarter of a mile above Shamrock Lake the Big Ridge Trail climbs to the west onto Big Ridge. Mirror Lake is 3/4 mile farther up the Mirror Lake Trail. Mirror and Shamrock Lakes provide fishing for Brook Trout.

**ETHICS/REGULATIONS:** Mirror Lake Trail is in the Flat Tops Wilderness, please educate yourself about Wilderness Ethics. Know the following rules:

- **Cattle:** May be grazing in the area
- **DOGS:** Possessing a dog or other animal that is harassing wildlife or people or damaging property is prohibited. There is no leash law in the Flat Tops, however dogs must be kept under verbal control at all times.
- **TRASH: PACK IT IN, PACK IT OUT** -- even biodegradable items like fruit peels!
- Limit group size to 10 people and 15 stock/pack animals or less
- **SANITATION** - bury human waste 100 feet from trails and water and 6 inches in the soil or pack it out along with toilet paper.

**WILDERNESS AREAS** are in a delicate state of natural balance, they are not renewable resources. Any careless act upsets this natural balance and destroys the beauty found in the Wilderness. By following Wilderness ethics and regulations you can protect and preserve the natural qualities of the Wilderness for future visits. **PLEASE, RESPECT THE LAND AND RIGHTS OF OTHERS**